



## RESOLUTION

of the Governing Council of the National Hellenic Research Foundation,  
17 June 2009

The Governing Council of the National Hellenic Research Foundation has discussed at length the announcements made by the Greek Ministry of Development concerning “reorganization of the research network”, and in particular the threatened break-up of the Foundation, and unanimously adopts the following resolution:

- 1) The Ministry’s announcements are illegal because they are not based, as is required by law, on any opinion issued by the National Council of Research and Technology, and are in fact wholly contrary to the recommendations of the Council’s select committee.
- 2) The proposed measure is the product of inexcusable superficiality, amateurishness and covert designs. It does not serve any of the three declared objectives of the announced reform, namely rationalization, economy, and improvement of research. On the contrary, the break-up of what is widely regarded as a successful National Hellenic Research Foundation will a) entail extensive and extended disruption of research at all levels, b) waste resources and man-hours, and possibly lose substantial income from European research-programmes, c) impose on Greek research outdated monothematic concepts at a time when polycentric and cross-disciplinary approaches are the international norm, pioneered in Greece and exemplified for decades now by the National Hellenic Research Foundation.
- 3) The National Hellenic Research Foundation’s institutes have already been assessed three times and rewarded as Centers of Excellence. It has matured strategic goals for further development through the foundation of an International Centre for Greek Studies and a Nanotechnology Centre, and it has submitted plans to the Ministry of Development for on-site extension. These development plans, far from being supported and facilitated by the State, are today threatened with cancellation.
- 4) The National Hellenic Research Foundation refuses to countenance its own break-up, because such a step would deal a fatal blow to the development of research and of Greece generally. The administration and personnel are determined to employ all legal and democratic means to protect what has been built up with hard work over the years, and not to betray the prospects for further progress which are now opening up.